

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 16, line 4, delete "a sensitizing agent" and substitute therefor -- human IgE --;

Claim 20, line 2, after "a" insert -- radioactive --;  
and,

Claim 24, line 2, delete "an immunoassay" and substitute therefor -- a radio-immunoassay --;

Please rewrite the following claims:

17. (Amended) A method for determining the potential irritancy or allergenicity of a pre-select substance comprising:

- a. exposing a cell-line, which is a [secretor variant] cell-line of mast cell or basophil lineage and which is transfected with a moiety capable of binding human IgE, to said substance in either the absence or presence of human IgE [a sensitising agent]; and
- b. then determining the release of mast cell and/or basophil cell mediators in response to said exposure.